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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,

FEDERAL HORTICULTURAL BOARD.

C. L. MARLATT, *Chairman;* W. A. ORTON; GEORGE B. SUDWORTH; W. D. HUNTER; A. V. STUBENRAUCH. R. C. ALTHOUSE, *Secretary.*

SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MAY, 1914.

FURTHER POTATO IMPORTATIONS FROM THE ISLAND OF BORNHOLM, DENMARK, PROHIBITED.

The finding by our inspector at the port of New York of potatoes infested with powdery scab in two bags out of a shipment of 480 bags from Ronne (Bornholm), Denmark, arriving on the steamship *Frederik VIII*, May 16, resulted in the following letter:

WASHINGTON, *D. C., May 22, 1914.*

The honorable the SECRETARY OF STATE.

SIR: A recent importation of Danish potatoes showed infestation with powdery scab. In accordance with the agreement with the Danish Government lifting the quarantine, all permits for the importation of Danish potatoes have been canceled, and no potatoes loaded and invoiced after May 31, 1914, will be permitted entry. All shipments now on the water or loaded and invoiced to May 31, 1914, inclusive, will be permitted entry if on inspection they are found to be free from powdery scab. This action is taken pending the determination of the affected district, and no further permits will be issued until the Danish Government shows to the satisfaction of this department that the affected district has been freed from infection, or that the products of such district are so protected, either by quarantine or other restrictions, as to prevent their being offered for export to the United States. Please communicate this information to the Danish Government and to the United States consuls in Denmark.

Very respectfully, D. F. HOUSTON, *Secretary.*

In connection with this information a letter was at once written to all permittees canceling permits.

This matter was promptly taken up with the Danish Government by the minister of Denmark located at this capital and the following letter was received May 29:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 29, 1914.*

Mr. C. L. MARLATT,

Chairman Federal Horticultural Board,

United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

SIR: The action taken by the Federal Horticultural Board on the 22d of this present month canceling all outstanding permits to import potatoes from

Denmark was at once brought to the attention of the Danish Government by me. I also cabled to the Danish Government the information that the action of the board was due to the fact that powdery scab had been found in 2 bags out of 480 bags shipped from Rønne (Bornholm) by Vilhelm Rønne, inspected on May 2 by Ferdinandsen, certificate No. 86896, and delivered at New York per steamship *Frederick VIII* on May 16.

In view of these facts the Danish minister of agriculture has, under date of yesterday, May 28, issued an order to the Danish plant inspection service forbidding the issuance of certificates of inspection for potatoes grown in the island of Bornholm.

The island of Bornholm is, as you no doubt know, a rocky island situated in the Baltic Sea, about 100 miles distant from the nearest point of the island of Zealand with the capital, Copenhagen. The island thus forms in itself a well-defined and isolated district, and the new order issued by the Danish minister of agriculture makes it impossible to export potatoes grown in the island of Bornholm to the United States, as only certified potatoes can be exported to the United States in virtue of the order issued on February 19, 1914, by the Danish minister of agriculture.

In these circumstances the requirement of the Federal Horticultural Board that the products of the affected district should be protected by such restrictions as will prevent their being offered for export to the United States has been complied with, and I have consequently been directed to request that the prohibition of importation of potatoes may be lifted with regard to potatoes grown in Denmark outside of the island of Bornholm.

I may add that an examination of the potato fields in the island of Bornholm has at once been ordered and begun.

Believe me, very truly, C. BRUN, *Minister of Denmark.*

On the strength of the communication from the minister of Denmark, the following letter was sent to the State Department:

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 29, 1914.

The honorable the SECRETARY OF STATE.

SIR: Referring to our communication of May 22, 1914, with reference to the importation of Danish potatoes, I have the honor to recommend, in view of the action since taken by the Danish Government and reported to this department by the Danish minister at this capital, prohibiting the certification and shipment to the United States of potatoes from the island of Bornholm, the only portion of Denmark now known to be infested, that our consular agents in Denmark be advised by cable that permits have been validated, and that they be authorized to certify invoices for shipments to the United States as formerly, with the exception of shipments from the island of Bornholm. The Danish Government should also be advised of this fact.

Very respectfully, D. F. HOUSTON, *Secretary.*

All permittees were notified that their permits were again valid for importations from Denmark, with the exception of the island of Bornholm.

FURTHER POTATO IMPORTATIONS FROM HOLLAND PROHIBITED.

The receipt of a letter from Dr. J. Ritzema Bos, chief of the Dutch Phytopathological Service, dated May 15, 1914, advising us that powdery scab

(*Spongospora subterranea*) is now present in a mild form in some parts of Holland, was responsible for the following letter to the Secretary of State:

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 26, 1914.*

The honorable the SECRETARY OF STATE.

SIR: I have the honor to inclose herewith, for transmission to the Minister of the Netherlands, a copy of a letter received to-day from Dr. J. Ritzema Bos, chief of the Dutch Phytopathological Service, Wageningen, Holland, reporting the finding of powdery scab in some parts of Holland.

In accordance with the agreement with the Government of the Netherlands lifting the quarantine, all permits for the importation of potatoes from that country have been canceled, and no potatoes loaded and invoiced after May 31, 1914, will be permitted entry. All shipments now on the water, or loaded and invoiced to May 31, 1914, inclusive, will be permitted entry, if on inspection they are found to be free from powdery scab. This action is taken pending the determination of the affected districts, and no further permits will be issued until the Government of the Netherlands shows to the satisfaction of this department that the affected districts have been freed from infection, or that the products of such districts are so protected, either by quarantine or other restrictions, as to prevent their being offered for export to the United States. Please communicate this information to the Government of the Netherlands and to the United States consuls in the Netherlands.

Very respectfully, D. F. HOUSTON, *Secretary.*

ACTION ON NOTICE OF QUARANTINE NO. 8 AND AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO QUARANTINE NO. 8.

In response to the letter from the Secretary of Agriculture to the Postmaster General, published in the Service and Regulatory Announcements of this board for April, 1914, the following instructions were issued to postmasters:

Instructions to postmasters: Cotton seed and cottonseed hulls prohibited importation in the mails.

OFFICE OF THE SECOND ASSISTANT POSTMASTER GENERAL,
Washington, D. C., May 7, 1914.

In view of Quarantine Order No. 8 and of the amendment thereto No. 1, hereto subjoined, promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture May 28 and August 18, 1913, under the authority of the act of August 20, 1912, known as the Plant Quarantine Act, all cotton seed (including seed cotton) and cottonseed hulls are prohibited importation in the mails from any foreign country, except the Imperial Valley, in the State of Lower California, and the States of Nuevo Leon and Tamaulipas, Mexico. The notices of this office, dated December 3 and December 16, 1913, printed on page 2 of the Postal Guide for January, 1914, are modified accordingly.

Postmasters and other postal officials are instructed to give careful attention to the foregoing and to cause to be returned to origin immediately all mail importations of the products mentioned.

JOSEPH STEWART,
Second Assistant Postmaster General.

The quarantine notice and amendment were published in connection with these instructions.

The necessary information respecting the prohibition in question was also communicated by the Post Office Department to the International Bureau of the

Universal Postal Union at Berne, Switzerland, for notification to the countries comprising the Postal Union.

BURNING OF PICKER WASTE FROM EGYPTIAN COTTON RECOMMENDED.

The following circular letter was addressed to all cotton mills in the United States known to be users of Egyptian cotton, pending final decision by the department as to the best means of regulating the use of this cotton to prevent the entry of the pink bollworm. This insect is one of the worst enemies of cotton in Egypt and certain other foreign countries, and is normally carried in the seed, but inasmuch as a certain quantity of seed is found in baled lint cotton there is also considerable danger from the use of such cotton in mills in Southern States which are in close connection with growing cotton. The picker waste includes the seed and other extraneous matter separated from lint cotton as the first process in manufacture. This picker waste is of small value, and it was represented by mill men that there would be no objection to the burning of such waste, in the case of northern as well as southern mills.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 23, 1914.*

DEAR SIRS: At a recent hearing of the department, which was attended by representatives of mills which use foreign cotton, the safeguarding of the cotton industry from the so-called pink boll worm, by restricting the use of foreign cottons to mills in the northern part of the United States, was considered. The representatives of mills who were present offered to eliminate the danger as far as possible by the burning of the picker waste, in which the infested seeds have been found to occur in considerable numbers.

Pending final decision by the department on means of protecting the cotton industry, you are urged to reduce the danger of the invasion of a very serious pest by having all of the picker waste in your mill destroyed by burning as it accumulates.

Respectfully, D. F. HOUSTON, *Secretary.*

NOTICES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS.

Proposed order placing restrictions on importation of lint cotton on account of the pink boll worm.

MAY 2, 1914.

Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of Agriculture has determined that the unrestricted importation of lint cotton from any foreign country may result in the entry into the United States, its Territories, and Districts, of injurious cotton insects, including the pink boll worm (*Gelechia gossypiella*).

In accordance with the provisions of section 5 of the act of August 20, 1912, a public hearing will be held at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., May 15, 1914, at 10 o'clock a. m., to determine whether restrictions such as apply to the importation of nursery stock should be imposed upon importations of lint cotton from any foreign country.

Quarantine proposed to prohibit the movement of imported cotton from Northern States to cotton-growing States on account of the pink boll worm.

MAY 2, 1914.

The Secretary of Agriculture has information that there is danger of the introduction of an injurious cotton insect known as the pink boll worm (*Gelechia gossypiella*), not heretofore widely prevalent or distributed within

and throughout the United States, in seeds adhering to lint cotton imported from foreign countries, when used in southern cotton mills. It therefore becomes his duty to consider the advisability of prohibiting the shipment of imported lint cotton from the New England States, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, or from any other Northern State, into or through any other State, Territory, or District of the United States.

In compliance with section 8 of the Plant Quarantine Act of August 20, 1912, a public hearing will be held at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., at 10 o'clock a. m., May 15, 1914, in order that persons interested in the subject of this quarantine may be heard.

Quarantine proposed to restrict the movement of Hawaiian cotton to certain Northern States on account of the pink boll worm.

MAY 2, 1914.

The Secretary of Agriculture has information that there is danger of the introduction of an injurious cotton insect known as the pink boll worm (*Gelechia gossypiella*), not heretofore widely prevalent or distributed within and throughout the United States, in seeds adhering to lint cotton shipped from the Territory of Hawaii, when used in southern cotton mills. It therefore becomes his duty to consider the advisability of prohibiting the shipment of lint cotton from the Territory of Hawaii, except to certain Northern States.

In compliance with section 8 of the Plant Quarantine Act of August 20, 1912, a public hearing will be held at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., at 10 o'clock a. m., May 15, 1914, in order that persons interested in the subject of this quarantine may be heard.

The following press notice was issued in connection with these three notices of public hearings:

New quarantines against the pink boll worm: Public hearings to be held on proposals to restrict importations of lint cotton, in order to protect southern cotton growers.

Public hearings will be held at the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., on May 15, on three proposed measures to limit the entry and manufacture of foreign lint cotton to the Northern States. These measures, the department experts say, are made necessary by the danger of the introduction of the pink boll worm, one of the most serious cotton pests known. Since Hawaii is already infested with the worm, cotton from this territory will be included in the restriction.

It is also proposed to prohibit shipment of foreign lint cotton from the Northern States to the South for use in southern cotton mills. The inconvenience that this measure will cause mill owners is said to be insignificant compared with the evil that would be wrought should the pink boll worm once establish itself in the cotton regions of the South.

This insect is found in India, the Straits Settlements, Ceylon, Burma, German East Africa, Egypt, and the Hawaiian Islands. Since its introduction into Egypt, about five years ago, its ravages have increased from year to year, until in 1913 they amounted to more than those of all the other cotton insects combined. In severe cases the worm has been known to reduce the yield 50 per cent. In addition to this the amount of oil obtained from the seed is lessened from 15 to 20 per cent.

To keep this insect out the barring of cottonseed has been found insufficient, for a considerable number of infested seed are usually found in the bales of lint. Since the cotton fields of the South are adjacent to many of the southern

cotton mills, the danger from this infested seed is very great, should any of it find its way into this section. There is, moreover, every reason to suppose that the pink boll worm would adapt itself readily to conditions in this country. As a matter of fact its ravages might be even more disastrous than they have been elsewhere.

The new quarantines will, it is estimated, keep approximately 3,500 bales of Egyptian cotton from the southern mills each year. This loss can in great measure be supplied by special grades of cotton produced in the South, and where Egyptian cotton is absolutely necessary it will still be possible to obtain the yarn from northern establishments. There is in fact reason to believe that within a few years Arizona will produce all the Egyptian cotton needed to supply the southern mills. For these reasons it is believed that the proposed restrictions will not work any great hardship to manufacturers, and the authorities say that they are essential to the safety of cotton growers.

WASHINGTON : GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1914